



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

## *Long Beach, CA*

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. The brownfields job training grants provide residents of communities impacted by brownfields with the skills and training needed to effectively gain employment in assessment and cleanup activities associated with brownfield redevelopment and environmental remediation. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Long Beach was selected to receive a job training grant. Long Beach's unemployment rate has been steadily declining since 2000 due to a changing economy and an influx of immigrants. Currently, over



### Job Training Grant

**\$199,968**

EPA has selected the City of Long Beach for a job training grant. The city plans to train 200 students, place 140 in environmental remediation jobs, and track graduates for one year. Trainees will receive 180 hours of course work, including certification training in HAZWOPER, refinery safety overview, asbestos and lead abatement, and OSHA standards for the construction industry. Participants will be recruited from Long Beach's most impoverished neighborhoods, which are adjacent to targeted brownfields sites. The primary trainer will be the Long Beach City College. The Miller Children's Hospital, the city's Community Development Department, the Long Beach Housing Authority, the Long Beach Community Action Partnership, and Women in Nontraditional Employment Roles will all contribute to the placement of graduates in environmental jobs.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team  
415-972-3270 or 213-244-1821  
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/index.html>

Grant Recipient: City of Long Beach, CA  
562-570-3701

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

14,000 people are actively seeking employment. With an overall poverty rate of 26 percent, Long Beach

(population 487,100) ranks sixth nationally among cities with the highest number of residents living in poverty, and third nationally among cities with the highest poverty rates for children under the age of 18. Sixty-seven percent of Long Beach residents are minorities, and more than 10 percent of the labor force is comprised of immigrants. Many low-income Long Beach residents live in blighted neighborhoods impacted by brownfields. Despite the economic downturn, local demand for environmental workers is strong and is expected to increase approximately 30 percent by 2012, due in large part to brownfields redevelopment.